

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 57th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION JOINT APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON LONG RANGE PLANNING

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN MATT MCCANN**, on March 21, 2001 at 3:30 P.M., in Room 455 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Matt McCann, Chairman (D)
Sen. Bob Keenan, Vice Chairman (R)
Sen. Tom A. Beck (R)
Rep. Dave Kasten (R)
Sen. Jon Tester (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Steve Vick (R)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Jane Hamman, OBPP
Andrea Hyatt, Committee Secretary
Brian McCullough, Legislative Branch

Please Note: These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted:
Executive Action: HB 16

CHAIRMAN MCCANN opened the hearing for HB 16 Executive Action.

CHAIRMAN MCCANN requested **REP. ROGER SOMERVILLE, HD 78** to present the highlights of the bill that has changed since it was reviewed by the Taxation Committee.

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

REP. ROGER SOMERVILLE, HD 78, reviewed the changes that were made: 1) Page 1, states they will submit the proposed bill to the voters, rather than just the legislature; 2) Pages 6-7, New Section 7 revised the recommended funding; 3) Page 7, New Section 9 revised to read Submission To Electorate. He provided

background information on each of the changes. **REP. SOMERVILLE** also presented and explained an amendment #1602 (number is located in right hand corner) to the bill to correct a technical issue on the financial note. **EXHIBIT(jlh64a01)**

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EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 16

CHAIRMAN MCCANN entertained a do pass motion on HB 16; **SEN. TESTER** so moved. **CHAIRMAN MCCANN** entertained a motion to move the amendment. **Jane Hamman** explained the amendment. **SEN. TESTER** moved the amendment. **CHAIRMAN MCCANN** requested clarification of the purpose of the amendment. **Jane Hamman** responded. Discussion followed.

Motion/Vote: **SEN. TESTER** moved TO ADOPT AMENDMENT #1602, BE ADOPTED AS AMENDED. Motion carried unanimously.

Votes for **SEN. BECK AND REP. VICK** were proxy votes; the proxy votes were made by **CHAIRMAN MCCANN AND REP. KASTEN**, respectively.

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SEN. KEENAN questioned when it would go on the ballot. **REP. KASTEN** questioned the timing and the funds being available if this has to go to the public to vote. **CHAIRMAN MCCANN** questioned the impact of these dollars being available to the communities; the soonest possible time. **Jane Hamman** responded.

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CHAIRMAN MCCANN questioned the tax credit; how many Montanans would submit for that credit and the endowment tax credit. **SEN. TESTER** questioned if the increase would pay off all the loans. **Jane Hamman** responded. **SEN. TESTER** questioned the cost to the Dept. of Revenue to rebate those funds. **Doreen Boyer, accountant, Historical Society**, responded. **CHAIRMAN MCCANN** questioned the percentage of Montanans who use hotels. **Doreen Boyer and Jeff Tiberi, Montana Heritage Commission**, responded. Discussion followed.

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CHAIRMAN MCCANN stated that he believes the bill will be tabled for a number of reasons. In some people's minds, this Legislature is facing a lack of revenues and, in other people's minds, we have to re-define how we spend our dollars. He

believes the bill could really do something for Montana, but there is a need for some participation from the tourism industry to release their grip on their ability to direct the money to specific projects, i.e., Virginia City and Nevada City. At one point in time, there was a deal made that we buy those cities and they would become somewhat self reliant. He believes that Montanans will not go along with sending \$14 million to them, nor the Daly Mansion. Also, the committee has some question in submitting it to the voters. At one point in time, **SEN TESTER** stated that "if we are going to do this, we're going to do this right here, we're not going to send this out to the voters". **SEN. TESTER** confirmed that quote. **CHAIRMAN MCCANN** continued, that the Heritage grants to local communities is an excellent idea because they need it to participate in this Lewis & Clark celebration; but then we would be out of step with the Lewis & Clark timelines. He will vote against the bill.

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REP. KASTEN agreed and moved to table HB 16.

Motion/Vote: **REP. KASTEN** moved **TO TABLE HB 16 BE ADOPTED. Motion carried unanimously.**

REP. KASTEN voted **REP. VICK'S** proxy.

CHAIRMAN MCCANN commented to the audience that he did not like the fact that they had the bill pending for so long and then it was tabled. He believed that if we had more revenues floating around to satisfy different sectors of the government, and if this bill was not looked upon as somewhat selective in the industries of Montana, there would have been a better chance.

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SEN. BECK questioned about **SEN. GROSFIELD'S** bill and where the funding was being directed. **Stuart Doggett, tourism lobbyist,** responded describing Senate Bill 439.

The meeting was adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:12 P.M.

REP. MATT MCCANN, Chairman

ANDREA HYATT, Secretary

MM/AH

EXHIBIT (j1h64aad)